

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL  
July 20, 2016 10:00 am to 3:30 pm  
Polk County River Place, Room 1  
2309 Euclid Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310  
MEETING MINUTES

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MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Bomhoff	Todd Noack
Jim Chesnik (phone)	Tammy Nyden (phone)
Jim Cornick	Donna Richard-Langer
Jim Donoghue	Brad Richardson
Kathleen Goines	Lee Ann Russo
Kris Graves	Christina Schark
Michael Kaufmann	Dennis Sharp
Anna Killpack	Rhonda Shouse
Sharon Lambert	Michele Tilotta
Todd Lange (phone)	Tracy White
Amber Lewis	Kimberly Wilson
LeAnn Moskowitz (phone)	

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kenneth Briggs Jr.	Lori Reynolds
Julie Gfeller	Jim Rixner
Julie Kalambokidis	DJ Swope
Gary Keller	Jennifer Vitko
Craig Matzke	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Theresa Armstrong	Bureau Chief, Community Services and Planning, DHS
Alexandra Bomhoff	Individual/Family Member
Karen Hyatt	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Rose Kim	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Mary Mohrhauser	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Carol Police	Individual/Family Member
Peter Schumacher	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning

Chair Teresa Bomhoff called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and led introductions. Quorum was not established.

**Monitoring and Oversight Committee – Donna Richard Langer**

Donna said the committee met that morning and wanted to continue to learn about the Mental Health Block Grant contracts, and to continue having regular conversations with the Department about what was going on with them and how they were proceeding.

Jim Cornick asked what the total funding of the Mental Health Block Grant contracts for projects of statewide significance. Peter Schumacher answered that it was approximately \$1 million.

**Public Safety Workgroup Report – by Teresa Bomhoff**

Teresa Bomhoff spoke about the Stepping Up initiative which is an effort to find alternative placement for people with mental health needs rather than the corrections system.

Teresa also mentioned that Craig Matzke was working on developing an online training solution for law enforcement and first responders. She said the Iowa Association of Community Providers has a similar platform for direct care staff.

**Children’s Workgroup – Tammy Nyden**

Tammy spoke about the work of the Children’s Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup. The Workgroup met on July 7, and will meet again on August 4. All the meetings are open to the public.

Tammy said the Workgroup is currently preparing to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for planning grants to establish children’s mental health crisis programs in two areas of the state. There will also be an RFP for Learning Labs which will examine collaborative strategies for caring for children with complex needs and their families.

Teresa Bomhoff said the first meeting was spent discussing core services, and how to create a Children’s Mental Health system.

**Legislative Workgroup – Teresa Bomhoff**

Teresa Bomhoff presented a set of draft legislative priorities for 2017.

Teresa said they were similar to last year’s priorities with recommendations on long-term sustainable funding for MHDS Regions, mental health workforce, and the formation of a mental health caucus in the legislature.

Rhonda Shouse said that she and two others have formed an organization called Iowa Disability Votes Count, which is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization to educate voters on issues that affect people with disabilities in Iowa.

Rhonda also said there would be a Senate hearing on IA Health Link on Tuesday, July 26 that would be open to the public.

There was a discussion about the challenges regarding IA Health Link.

### **Department of Public Health Update – Michele Tilotta**

Michele said the Department of Public Health (IDPH) is increasing early intervention screenings for substance use, suicide prevention, and depression. There are already robust prevention services, so this is an effort to fill in the treatment array.

IDPH is also working on opiate interventions, and there has been a boost in funding to address the recent increase in opiate abuse. Michele said they have contracted with twenty-three providers under the Substance Abuse Block Grant.

Teresa Bomhoff asked how many providers there are in total. Michele said there are over 120 licensed substance abuse providers in Iowa, and IDPH has contracted with twenty-three that serve all ninety-nine counties.

There was discussion about the availability of substance use treatment services.

Michele said she is working on the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics project. The contracts have been awarded to Heartland Behavioral Health Services in Council Bluffs, Seasons Center in Emmetsburg, and Abbe Center for Community Mental Health in Cedar Rapids. Teresa Bomhoff spoke about the requirements that providers would have to meet in order to be considered for the grant.

### **Mental Health – Michael Kaufmann**

Michael said the Department's budget has been working its way through the process. The Mental Health Institutes (MHI) are still maintaining wait lists. Michael said the most significant challenge is finding community placement for individuals with aggressive behaviors.

Teresa Bomhoff asked if many of the people leaving the MHIs have been involved with the corrections system. Michael answered that some of them do. The MHIs have an ongoing relationship with law enforcement in the area.

Teresa asked what happens to individuals who are not able to be placed in the MHI. Michael answered that they remain where they are until they can find services appropriate to their needs.

Todd Noack spoke about the Office of Consumer Affairs contract, and how Iowa Advocates for Mental health Recovery was not awarded the contract. He wanted to tell people directly.

The Planning Council broke for lunch at 12:06 pm

The meeting resumed at 1:09 pm

### **First Episode Psychosis – Mary Mohrhauser**

Mary said that the First Episode Psychosis (FEP) program is funded out of the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) through a set-aside, which are additional funds on top of the regular block grant. In previous years, this had been a 5% set-aside, but it was increasing to 10% as of this next federal fiscal year.

Mary said the program has two Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) who have completed training, and are taking patients. The CMHCs are Abbe Center for Community Mental Health, and Eyerly Ball. There is one individual who has “graduated” from the program, but will still continue to check in. This program is designed to provide support for people as soon as they have experienced their first episode of psychosis and to prevent their symptoms from getting any worse.

Teresa Bomhoff asked if the extra funding would be used to develop additional care teams. Mary answered that the Department is evaluating how the extra funds should be used.

Teresa asked how much money was allocated for this program. Mary answered that last year it was \$184,000, and this year it will be \$368,000. The providers originally underestimated the cost and demands of the program, and have learned a lot in the process.

Todd Noack asked where peer and family support fit in with FEP. Mary said they are not required by the program, but it is a very good resource for individuals especially if they are feeling isolated.

### **MHDS Region Dashboards – Rose Kim and Rick Shults**

Rose emphasized that what she was presenting was a discussion draft and there would be changes.

Rose Kim presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the MHDS Dashboard’s history and another which showed the Dashboard in its current form.

Todd Noack asked if the counties that have Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams can serve people outside their regions. Teresa said there were limits on how far they could go due to travel time.

Anna asked if the draft of the dashboard was reflective of the system as a whole. Rose answered that it was not reflective yet, but the Department is working on it. Rick said that in terms of core services, this draft is reflective of what the Regions have developed, but that does not generalize to everything.

Jim Donoghue asked what would be an indicator of the changes over time. Rose answered that there have been major policy changes such as the Medicaid expansion, the change in the Medicaid offset.

Anna Killpack asked if this data will be available online. Rose said it would be online in a PDF format, and eventually kept up to date in real time.

### **MHDS/DHS Update – Rick Shults**

Rick said the MHDS Region dashboard is a work in progress, and his goal is to have essential information available to the public.

Rick spoke about the Stepping Up initiative which is devoted to reducing the use of jails for people with mental illness. There is a lot of investment in the Stepping Up initiative and other jail diversion efforts.

Rick said one of the Mental Health Redesign workgroups in 2014 had found a need to increase the number of ACT teams in the state, and that this might be an opportunity to get Medicaid MCOs and the MHDS Regions to work together.

Rick noted that the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup had been reconvened and had its first meeting on July 7. The Workgroup is moving forward with direction provided by legislation. One of the major projects for this year is identifying and mapping current providers of children's mental health services to see where there are strengths and needs. Rick noted that Teresa and NAMI have been very helpful in this effort.

The next step will be to discuss the governance and funding of a children's mental health system.

Rick said there will be a report due on November 15 regarding the progress made by the MHDS Regions.

Teresa asked about the sustainability of funding for Regions like Polk County and Eastern Iowa MHDS. Rick said that would be part of the annual report. Polk County received an appropriation from the General Assembly this year, and as part of that, they will have to provide a sustainable budget moving forward. Eastern Iowa MHDS also received an appropriation, and is required to function as a Region for the remainder of the State Fiscal Year.

Rick said the contract for the Office of Consumer Affairs had reached the end of its life and had to be put up for a competitive bid process. The Department released an RFP and went through an evaluation process. The Department has released an intent to award the contract to NAMI Iowa.

Rick said administrative rules regarding subacute care facilities will be going into effect on September 7th. The Department of Inspections and Appeals would license the facilities, but the Department would have to approve them and ensure the seventy-five publicly-funded beds were dispersed across the state.

Anna Killpack asked what the timeline for approval of subacute applications would be. Rick said there is a relatively short time to respond, and expects that applications would be turned around in approximately thirty days.

Rick said there were also amendments to the Autism Support Program, and corresponding rules were in the process of being approved. The rules would be considered for notice at the MHDS Commission's next meeting.

Rhonda Shouse asked what provisions are in the IA Health Link MCO's contracts regarding timely payments. Rick answered that 90% of clean claims must be paid within fourteen days, and 95% of them should be paid within twenty days.

Rhonda asked what would happen if MCOs fail to meet these standards. Rick said there are a number of remedies, and Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) would determine which remedies would be appropriate.

Rhonda asked if the Department is tracking providers who are in financial distress. Rick said that if providers are struggling, they should contact the Department immediately. Rick encouraged providers to contact him or Liz Matney at IME, because the Department would want to know.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public Comment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:08 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peter Schumacher